Getting to the bottom of social networks - discover how international students really use them

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Timings

• Brief introduction from each student on your table

• 30 minutes for discussions – suggested questions are on handouts

• 2 minute feedback from each table – present 3 key points from your discussions

• Summing up from us

*A note about filming*
Group Discussions

- **Topics to think about:** academic / accommodation / everyday life / social activities / health / working / careers

- What social channels are students using to connect to their host institution?
- What online/offline social networks do they have/use?
- How are they integrating into their host communities?
- How are they creating and maintaining new social networks?
- What social media channels do they prefer to use?
- Are they using different platforms to connect within their own student community (i.e. by nationality)
- How do they share information?
### IDP students’ existing connections in Australia

65% of Australian-bound IDP students have friends or family abroad in Australia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Who is living in Australia</th>
<th>Spoke to them about life in Australia</th>
<th>Strong influence* on decision to study in Australia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friends / peers of similar age group</td>
<td>53%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Direct relatives (sibling, cousin, aunt, uncle)</td>
<td>49%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friends of the family / elders</td>
<td>31%</td>
<td>90%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* % strong influence = those rating 8 or higher out of 10 on a scale from 0 to 10
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